

## HOUSE BILL NO. 395

INTRODUCED BY B. THOMAS, CHRISTIAENS, BERRY, BOHLINGER, R. BROWN, BUTCHER,  
CALLAHAN, CLANCY, E. CLARK, COBB, COCCHIARELLA, COLE, CURTISS, DOHERTY, EKEGREN,  
FACEY, FRANKLIN, FRITZ, GALLIK, GALVIN-HALCRO, GOLIE, HAINES, HALLIGAN, L. HOLDEN,  
JERGESON, KAUFMANN, KEENAN, KITZENBERG, LASZLOFFY, LAWSON, LEHMAN, MANGAN,  
MCCARTHY, MCKENNEY, D. MOOD, NEWMAN, PRICE, RIPLEY, ROME, ROUSH, RYAN, SCHMIDT,  
SOMERVILLE, TASH, TESTER, J. TROPILA, WADDILL, WATERMAN, J. WHITAKER, WITT, WOLERY,  
C. YOUNKIN

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT APPROPRIATING MONEY TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS TO  
ESTABLISH A DENTAL HYGIENE EDUCATION PROGRAM AT THE MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-GREAT  
FALLS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, several areas in Montana have been federally designated as dental health professional  
shortage areas and 18 other Montana counties are currently being considered for designation; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that a large percentage of Montana dentists currently practicing will  
retire or reduce practice in the coming decade, severely restricting many Montanans' access to dental care;  
and

WHEREAS, the training and employment of dental hygienists is an effective strategy in expanding  
access to dental care for the public; and

WHEREAS, Montana is the only state in the nation without an accredited dental hygiene education  
program; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, the Board of Regents designated the Montana State University-Great Falls  
College of Technology as a site for a dental hygiene education program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Appropriation -- purpose. There is appropriated ~~\$171,959~~ \$119,683  
from the ~~general fund~~ STATE SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT GENERAL FUND to the board of regents for the biennium  
ending June 30, 2003, to establish a dental hygiene education program at the Montana state

1 university-Great Falls college of technology.

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3 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2001.

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